

Pittsburgh Courier

POST OFFICE BOX 1828

PITTSBURGH (30), PA.

Mayflower 1401

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May 19, 1944

Mrs. Effa Manley
71 Crawford Street
Newark (2) New Jersey

Dear Mrs. Manley:

This is in answer to your letter regarding the Western Union problem. However, I am sure that it will be straightened out by the next time you play in Newark.

I honestly think the Brooklyn-New York deal is one of the worst in baseball history. Who ever heard of every single team in a league playing in the same city on the same day?

I could take that tragic affair and splash it all over the newspaper. However, that will just make it worse. The public could be informed, but what could it do about it? That is a problem that must be thrashed out between owners.

As you know, I have constantly pleaded for a Commissioner. Nothing has been done about it. Now you find that you are losing money and facing the competition of your own business associates. That is because few owners respect baseball laws, or any other kind of law. The only thing to do is make them respect the laws and regulations of baseball. That can only be done by electing a commissioner and a new league president, a president not associated with a team.

If you had done this long ago, your league would have been so strong you wouldn't have lost Wells or any other player because you would have had a capable representative who could go to the Government and get some consideration.

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Page 2 ----

Truthfully, Mrs. Manley, I feel sorry for such people in baseball as you and your husband. You are victims of a vicious circle.

Personally, I wouldn't tolerate such business.

However, it isn't my business and so I guess I will shut my trap.

Am glad to know that your team is on top. For goodness sakes please stay there.

Regards,

Wendell Smith
Wendell Smith

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